

MARKED UP VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Once amended) A method for treating hypocalcemia, the method comprising the step of direct administration of a botulinum neurotoxin to a sympathetic ganglion which innervates the thyroid of a patient, thereby treating hypocalcemia.

2-3. (previously cancelled).

4. (cancelled).

5. (previously cancelled).

6. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum neurotoxin is administered in an amount of between about 10^{-3} U/kg of patient weight and about 35 U/kg of patient weight.

7. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum neurotoxin is made by a Clostridial bacterium.

8. (cancelled).

9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the botulinum neurotoxin is botulinum toxin type A.

11. (previously amended) A method for treating a hypocalcemia, the method comprising the step of administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a botulinum toxin to a patient, thereby treating hypocalcemia.

12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G.

13-18 (previously cancelled).

19. (original) A method for treating hypocalcemia, the method comprising the step of local administration to a sympathetic ganglion which innervates a thyroid C cell of a therapeutically effective amount of a botulinum toxin, thereby decreasing an excessive calcitonin secretion from the thyroid C cell and treating hypocalcemia.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, wherein the botulinum toxin is selected from the group consisting of botulinum toxin types A, B, C₁, D, E, F and G.